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TAGS: PREL PGOV UNGA PHUM RW

SUBJECT: RWANDA ON HUMAN RIGHTS, GEORGIA, KOSOVO, EGYPT

MINISTERIAL DEMARCHES

Classified By: CDA Cheryl Sim for Reason 1.4 (b) (d)

(C) Pol/Econ Chief met September 8 with Ben Rutsinga, IO Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to present several demarches. On the USG's human rights agenda at the upcoming UNGA session (ref A), as he has many times in the past Rutsinga noted Rwanda's "skeletal" team at the United Nations. Lack of coverage of key debates on human rights resolutions often meant that Rwanda ended of abstaining, a practice that would likely continue, he said. On Russia's recognition of Abkhazia and South Ossetia (ref D), Rutsinga said that Rwanda's position was clear and had not changed: it supported the territorial integrity of Georgia. On the Egyptian Ministerial on avian influenza scheduled for October (ref B) , Rutsinga said Rwanda would likely attend; his ministry awaited a formal invitation from the Egyptian government, which he assumed would come soon from the Egyptian embassy in Kigali. Finally, on Serbia's proposed International Court of Justice advisory opinion on Kosovo, Rutsinga said that the GOR would likely follow the African Union and Africa Group lead, although he did say that he saw no connection between Kosovo's declaration of independence and Russia's recognition of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. "Russia's interest is in tying the two together, but there is really no connection. SIM